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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/787,706	03/21/2001	Angelique Chappuis	Q63251	7585

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EXAMINER

GOODWIN, JEANNE M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2841	

DATE MAILED: 04/05/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/787,706

Applicant(s)

CHAPPUIS, ANGELIQUE

Examiner

Jeanne-Marguerite Goodwin

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Proper headings need to be added to the specification, i.e., Background of Invention, Summary of Invention, and Description of Invention. Appropriate correction is required.
2. The entire disclosure, i.e., specification, claims and abstract, should be revised carefully to correct any grammatical and idiomatic errors which may be present.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 1-12 are objected to because of the following informalities:
 - a. In claim 1, line 5: "the two cases" lacks antecedent basis.
 - b. In claim 1, line 7: "the other case" and "the cases" lacks antecedent basis.
 - c. In claim 3, line 1: --,-- should be added after "1" for grammatical purposes.
 - d. In claim 3, line 2: "the cases" lacks antecedent basis.
 - e. In claim 3, line 4: "the ends" lacks antecedent basis.
 - f. In claim 3, line 4: "the assembly" lacks antecedent basis.
 - g. In claim 8, line 1: "the two cases" lacks antecedent basis.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

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basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1 and 3-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Schlup.

Schlup discloses a reversible watch including a first case enclosing elements able to control a first display and a second case enclosing elements able to control a second display, said first and second cases each having a back cover and being placed back-to-back, characterized in that said first case includes at least one securing element arranged to be secured in a removable manner to a corresponding securing element of said second case, wherein to secure the first and second cases to each other in a position in which their respective back covers are adjacent. The securing elements of the first and second cases include at a six o'clock and a twelve o'clock a pair of horns provided with holes through which bars pass, said bars acting both as means for securing the first case to the second case and means for securing each of the ends of the wristband to an assembly formed by the first and second cases.

6. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Goldenberg et al. [hereinafter Goldenberg].

Goldenberg discloses a reversible watch having a first case assembly (20, 22) enclosing control knob 24 and a second case assembly (30, 32) enclosing control knob 34, said first case and second case assemblies each having a back cover and being placed back-to-back, characterized in that the first case and second case assemblies includes at least one securing element to secure the cases to each other in a position in which their respective back covers are adjacent.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goldenberg in view of Pauli.

Goldenberg discloses a device as stated above with regards to claim 1. Goldenberg discloses all the subject matter claimed by applicant with the exception of the limitation stated in claim 7, i.e., the securing elements include assembly elements of the dovetail type.

With respect to the limitation stated in claim 7: Pauli teaches using a securing element having a dovetail type engagement in order to easily fasten a watchcase to a bracelet. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the securing element as taught by Goldenberg, with the securing element as taught by Pauli, since both are alternate types of securing elements which will provide the same function, if one is replaced with the other, of securing the first and second cases together.

9. Claim 8-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goldenberg in view of Bouchet.

Goldenberg discloses a device as stated above with regards to claim 1. Goldenberg discloses all the subject matter claimed by applicant with the exception of the limitation stated in claim 8, i.e., a support having two parallel lateral bars; the limitation stated in claim 9, i.e., a

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trunnion which is engaged in a slide way; and the limitation stated in claim 10, i.e., the support being provided with securing means including a removable bar for securing it to the wristband; the limitation stated in claim 11, i.e., the movable case slides along the support in a perpendicular direction to the wristband; and the limitation stated in claim 12, i.e., the movable case slides on the support in a parallel direction to the wristband.

With respect to the limitations stated in claims 8-12: Bouchet discloses a reversible wrist watch comprising a support having two parallel lateral bars (2, 3) between which a movable case occupies two mutually reversed positions, in which two opposite lateral faces of the movable case extend, a trunnion (27) which is engaged in a slide way, the bars (2, 3) are removable bars for securing to the wristband and the movable case slides along the support in a perpendicular and parallel direction to the wristband. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the reversible assembly as taught by Goldenberg with the reversible assembly as taught by Bouchet, since both are alternate types of reversible assemblies which will provide the same function, if one is replaced with the other, of reversing the first case or second case outward.

Conclusion

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The prior art cited in the PTO-892 disclose related devices. Chauvot '416 and Chauvot '868, Imgruth et al., Stevens and CH680329A3 disclose a reversible wrist watch; and Aellen discloses a method of assembly a watch

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11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Jeanne-Marguerite Goodwin whose telephone number is (703) 305-0264. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (9am-6pm), alternate Fridays off. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-7724. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

JMG
April 3, 2002


VIT Miska
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER
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